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UNITED STATES SENATE
Committee on
Government Operations

April 21, 1953

Mr. R. W. McLeod
Administrator
Bureau of Security and Counselor
Affairs
Department of State
Washington 25, D.C.

Dear Mr. McLeod:

In connection with this Subcommittee's investigation of the problems of East-West trade, we are most anxious to obtain from your Department a detailed summary of the pending negotiations being carried on by representatives of our government with foreign governments on the overall subject of East-West trade. It would be appreciated if such a detailed summary could be furnished to us at an early date and we would like to be informed immediately as to when we may expect such a summary.

I have recently discussed this problem of our country's negotiations with Mr. Louis Goodkind of your Department. At that time I indicated to him that it would be most helpful if we could have the opportunity to review the actual working papers of our negotiators which are available here in Washington. However, Mr. Goodkind expressed the opinion that such a request might not be granted by the State Department and that our request might result in a delay in furnishing us with information concerning the specific details of such negotiations. Therefore, I am not at this time making a specific request for an opportunity to review the State Department's working negotiation papers, but I am now asking that consideration be given to our request. In the meantime, I would appreciate being furnished with the summary above requested.

In connection with this same problem we would also appreciate being informed as to the following:

1. The ultimate objective which our government is seeking in its negotiations with our allies in connection with our efforts to eliminate or reduce the trade now being carried on with Red China by western flag vessels.

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2. The ultimate objective which our government is seeking in its negotiations with our allies in connection with our efforts to eliminate or reduce Soviet intra-bloc trade anywhere in the world on the part of western flag vessels.

Your courtesy in expediting the requests contained in this communication will be sincerely appreciated.

Very truly yours,

Francis D. Flanagan
General Counsel
Senate Permanent Subcommittee
on Investigations